

**BOARD OF ADA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015
3:00 P.M.**

The Board of Ada County Commissioners (Board) met in the Commissioners' Conference Room of the Ada County Courthouse Complex to act on the following items. Staff members present: Brian Wilbur, Weed and Pest; and Claire Tardiff, Prosecuting Attorney's Office. Minutes Recorder: Angel Dicus.

- I. IN THE MATTER OF CALL TO ORDER:**
Commissioner Jim Tibbs called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- II. IN THE MATTER OF ROLL CALL:**
Commissioners Jim Tibbs and David L. Case were present.
- III. IN THE MATTER OF CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**
There were no changes to the agenda.
- IV. IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS:**
- Appeal of Weed and Pest Notice

Isabelle Taylor, representing Elizabeth McClennen, was present and sworn in for testimony.

J. Tibbs opened the public hearing.

B. Wilbur presented the Staff report. He explained that the weed, Russian Knapweed, requires a two year eradication plan. He stated noxious weeds control is mandated by the State.

J. Tibbs and B. Wilbur discussed herbicides and working with the property owner on a plan.

I. Taylor gave a history of weed and pest infestation on the property. She discussed mechanical weed control and organic composting. She explained her concerns with chemical treatments affecting the high aquafer level. She discussed alternative weed and pest abatement processes including the use of goats. She expressed discontentment with the chemical treatments used by Weed and Pest.

D. Case and I. Taylor discussed Russian Knapweed eradication schedules, methods and goals.

D. Case questioned I. Taylor and B. Wilbur on the risks of the Russian Knapweed spreading to the neighbors. I. Taylor stated that the only way the Russian Knapweed would spread is if someone were to drive through it. B. Wilbur stated birds could spread the weed, but it is fairly stable.

The parties discussed I. Taylor's concern for the type of chemicals used to treat the weeds affecting the aquafer, the amounts used and whether the chemical used for Russian Knapweed has been used near E. Clemmens's property.

B. Wilbur stated if the I. Taylor had contacted his department with her plan the appeal could have been avoided. He stated he would like to review her eradication plan and discuss a long term plan.

J. Tibbs inquired whether I. Taylor had contacted the Ada County Weed Control Department. I. Taylor stated she had not.

D. Case and I. Taylor discussed when the Russian Knapweed problem started and why the property owner was not present at the meeting. D. Case inquired if B. Wilbur has ever spoken with Elizabeth McClemmen. B. Wilbur stated he had not, but that other Staff members had.

The parties discussed the need for E. McClemmen to be present for any meeting regarding this property.

C. Tardiff stated if the land owner would like I. Taylor to represent her on this matter she could execute a power of attorney for that limited purpose.

D. Case stated B. Wilbur needs to review I. Taylor's plan and report back with his recommendations.

I. Taylor presented testimony, arguing that the weed is tenacious, but is being reduced.

The parties agreed to discuss a workable plan to eradicate the Russian Knapweed, under the State regulated time frame. C. Tardiff stated the plan should be formalized in a contractual agreement.

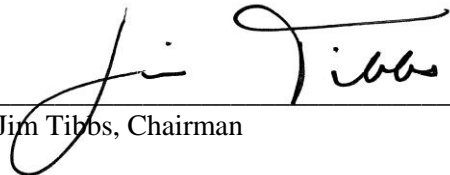
J. Tibbs closed the public hearing.

D. Case stated he believed this should be tabled out thirty days to give B. Wilbur and I. Taylor an opportunity to create a plan with an annual review.

ACTION: D. CASE MOVED TO TABLE THE APPEAL TO NOVEMBER 12, 2015, TO ALLOW THE PARTIES TIME TO CREATE AN ERADICATION PLAN. J. TIBBS SECONDED. D. CASE, AYE, AND J. TIBBS, AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

V. IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board on this date, the meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.


Jim Tibbs, Chairman

ATTEST:


Christopher D. Rich, Ada County Clerk